

Suggested Covering Letter to General de Gaulle

Dear Mr. President:

I want to say again to you that I consider our recent talks to have been of the highest value in the development of the greater understanding and comprehension between our two countries. In line with our understanding about close and continuing consultation, Secretary Rusk has spoken to Ambassador Alphand on the next steps to be taken to arrange the appropriate machinery. I feel certain that you must meanwhile share our concern about the threatening character of the aide-memoire on Berlin given me by Premier Khrushchev in Vienna and about similar remarks expressed to your Foreign Minister by Mr. Gromyko. I believe that Khrushchev's subsequent public addresses in Moscow have reinforced the ominous character of this document. We have accordingly felt the need for urgent consultation among the Western governments, and found very useful the conversations that were consequently held at Washington last week, in which M. Laloy participated. It has been agreed that these conversations will be resumed in July.

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- 2 -

The outlook of our two governments on the Berlin situation continues to be very close, and our objectives indeed appear to be identical. It seems obvious to me that the Soviet challenge makes it all the more necessary that we remain united on this subject, and that we keep the other Western powers in step with us.

I am also taking this occasion to enclose, for you, a letter regarding the use of nuclear weapons along the lines of our recent discussion.

With warm personal regards,

Sincerely,

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